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## **METHODS FOR IMAGING THE LYMPHATIC SYSTEM USING DENDRIMER-BASED CONTRAST AGENTS**

### **Abstract**

5       Methods are disclosed for lymphatic system imaging using dendrimer  
conjugates as contrast agents. The disclosed methods are applicable to the imaging of  
all lymphatic structures, but in particular embodiments are particularly suited for  
imaging specific parts of the lymphatic system such as lymph nodes or lymphatic  
vessels. The methods permit the assessment of abnormal conditions within the  
10 lymphatic system, such as lymphoma/lymphoproliferative disease, inflammation, and  
cancer metastasis. The methods also may be used to identify and locate lymph nodes  
into which lymph fluid flows from a tumor.